



Above: At the Jan. 12 Palmer Lake Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor Glant Havenar recognized resident Gary Atkins for his efforts to ensure that Palmer Lake Town Hall not sustain damage during December's freezing weather when its furnace broke down. Photo by James Howald. Caption by Jackie Burhans.



Above (L to R): At the Jan. 12 Palmer Lake Board of Trustees meeting, Police Chief Jason Vanderpool administers the oath of office to new officer Stafon Stevens. Photo by James Howald. Caption by Jackie Burhans.

good. Lindsay and Richard Willans spoke, agreeing on the points made by the board and others, expressing their continued interest in renovating the pool area to create a spa. Richard Willans said everybody assumed the land would be up for sale eventually. Lindsay Willans said the original idea was to preserve 51% of the land for the town, connect to the Creekside Trail and bring in business investors who would only be interested if they could lease

to own. Havenar summarized that the board wanted to hear from the Parks Commission on Feb. 26 and from the Willanses at the March 9 meeting. In the meantime, if Carter Payne wanted to re-open negotiations, they could reach out to her or Collins and could include a representative from PLEDG. Mayor Pro Tem Dennis Stern asked how to communicate any directions that come out of a potential executive session,

and Collins said the board could have her convey the parameters to interested parties. Attorney Scott Krob reminded the board that no decisions could be made in executive session, but the board could provide direction to staff on what parameters they wanted to set. Any binding decision would be in an open meeting.

Atkins honored

Havenar presented a certificate to Atkins honoring him for his efforts to protect the newly refurbished Town Hall when the furnace failed during the Christmas holiday. Atkins came to the Town Hall during a storm to ensure that any emergencies would be addressed as quickly as possible.

Martin Luther King Day recognized

Havenar read a proclamation recognizing King's work to further peace, freedom, equality, and justice for all in America and designating Jan. 16 as a holiday in his honor.

Appointments made; resignation submitted

The board passed seven resolutions appointing town officers and representatives to boards and commissions:

- Resolution 2-2023, which names John Cic-

colella as municipal judge, Collins as town administrator, clerk and treasurer, and Krob Law Office as the town attorney.

- Resolution 3-2023, which appoints Charlie Ihlenfeld, Bill Fisher, Mark Bruce, and Amy Hutson to the Planning Commission.
- Resolution 4-2023, which appoints Mike Pietsch and Phyllis Head to the Parks Commission.
- Resolution 5-2023, which appoints Havenar to the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments.
- Resolution 6-2023, which appoints Nikki McDonald to the Pikes Peak Areas Council of Governments Citizens Advisory Committee.
- Resolution 7-2023, which appoints Kurt Ehrhardt, Charlie Ihlenfeld, Bob Radosovich, and Trustee Dreher to the Board of Adjustments.
- Resolution 8-2023, which appoints Trustee Stern to the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department.

At the Jan. 26 meeting, the board unanimously designated Jessica Farr as the

board representative to Awake Palmer Lake as a non-voting ex-officio member to ensure transparency and facilitate communication.

In addition to these appointments, Palmer Lake Police Chief Jason Vanderpool administered the oath of office to new officer Stafon Stevens.

Trustee Karen Stuth resigned from the board before the Local Licensing Authority meeting on Jan. 12.

Water tap fees and usage rates increased

The board voted to increase water tap fees and water usage rates by 7%. Collins explained that this increase was needed to make up for increases that had not been done previously as scheduled in 2019, and the new rates were added to the town's Master Fee Schedule.

Resident Roger Mosely commented that, in his opinion, the rate increases were not adequate and usage rates should be increased to \$30 per month

The board voted in favor of Resolution 13-2023, which increases the two rates by 7% in 2023 and by 3% in following years. Trustees Ball, Dreher, and Stern, along with Mayor Havenar, voted in favor and Trustees Farr and Samantha Padgett voted no.

The board also directed Collins to proceed with a more comprehensive analysis of the water fund, passing resolution 17-2023 on Jan. 26 to authorize an amount not to exceed \$6,000 for Christopher Brandewie to perform the professional services.

The amended Master Fee Schedule was also approved, with Ball, Dreher, Havenar, Padgett, and Stern voting in favor and Farr voting no.

Maximum sign size established

The board voted in favor of Ordinance 1-2023, which amends the town's code governing signs to specify a maximum size of 40 square feet and give businesses 60 days to comply with the new requirements.

Ambulance agreement terminated

Interim Fire Chief John Vincent told the board that the town's agreement to get ambulance service from Monument Fire District (MFD) required 90 days' notice to terminate. Vincent said the agreement allowed MFD to bill the town for each ambulance trip in addition to billing the recipient of the service. Vincent said the principle of mutual

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